

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

Claim 1. A method for treatment of a mammal susceptible to a condition associated with a proliferative disease, the method comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one *Curcuma* extract.

Claim 2. A method according to Claim 1, further comprising subjecting said mammal to radiation.

Claim 3. A method according to Claim 2, wherein the radiation is visible light.

Claim 4. The method according to Claim 3, wherein the visible light has a spectrum of 400-550 nanometers.

Claim 5. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises curcuminoids.

Claim 6. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is obtained by extracting *Curcuma* rhizomes using a solubilizing lipophilic compound.

Claim 7. The method according to Claim 6, wherein said compound is ethanol.

Claim 8. The method according to Claim 6, wherein said pharmaceutical composition further comprises an aqueous extract of *Curcuma*.

Claim 9. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said *Curcuma* extract is an extract of *Curcuma longa* rhizomes.

Claim 10. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said proliferative disease is characterized by an increase in cytokine production.

Claim 11. The method according to Claim 10, wherein said cytokine production is IL-8 production or IL-6 production and said method results in inhibition of IL-8 production or IL-6 production.

Claim 12. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said proliferative disease is selected from the group consisting of psoriasis, lichen, atopic, dermatitis, granuloma annulare, mycosis fungoides and leukaemia.

Claim 13. A topical composition comprising:

- (A) an aqueous *Curcuma* extract; and
- (B) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier for topical administration.

Claim 14. The topical composition according to Claim 13, wherein the composition further comprises an extract obtained by extracting *Curcuma* rhizomes using a solubilizing lipophilic compound.

Claim 15. The topical composition according to Claim 14, wherein said compound is ethanol.

Claim 16. The topical composition according to Claim 13, wherein said *Curcuma* extract is an extract of *Curcuma longa* rhizomes.